

QUARTER NOTES

FASO'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Published by and for Friends of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra

MARCH 2016

How We Support the Symphony

For well over 50 years the Friends of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra (FASO) have worked closely with the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra (ASO) to bring superb musical experiences to our community. I am pleased to share with you that because of your generous support we were able to give a check



for \$15,000 to the ASO just a few days ago. Thank you for your support!

You may not realize the scope of the collaboration between FASO and the ASO beyond our fundraising events such as the Concert of Tastes and Champagne Sunday (coming up on April 17th!) We provide a host of volunteer services for the ASO.

These include “Feed the Strings” on Tuesday nights of concert weeks; the “Bucket Brigade” at the annual Labor Day concert at Quiet Waters Park; and assisting with pre- and post-concert receptions during the music season. We are actively involved with the myriad of activities needed for the ASO’s annual Gala; provide office support for the excellent ASO staff; and assist the orchestra during musician auditions.

There are many varied activities and, I hope, something that inspires you to become more closely engaged with the ASO. I encourage FASO members to contact me (410-757-1824, mkclandcats@verizon.net) to find out more and how to get involved with these interesting and extremely worthwhile volunteer opportunities. You will get to know your orchestra and its wonderful musicians in a new and more personal way. Your active engagement will immeasurably assist in meeting FASO’s goal of expanding community awareness and involvement with the ASO.

I truly hope to hear from you so that you can experience what so many others have found -- the fulfillment that comes from closer involvement with the world of the ASO and the transformative power of its music!

Michael J. Kurtz, president

ASO and FASO: A Love Story

Early in February, the FASO board of directors sat down at a long table at Lowes and shared dreams and ideas with Patrick Nugent, ASO's new executive director, pictured at right. It was a day-long "retreat" where FASO folks could declaim, explain and complain to willing ears. Actually, there were no complaints. The tone of the event was respectful and the result was renewed friendship between ASO and the Friends of the ASO.



Patrick Nugent wore a shirt embroidered with the ASO logo. He told us how, when he wears ASO gear, the people he meets in the Annapolis community tell him they didn't know Annapolis *has* a symphony. We all agreed stronger marketing efforts would help.

He told us about the proposed Annapolis Symphony Academy (more on that in future Quarter Notes) and his hope that there would be more opportunities for FASO members to interact with the ASO. He hopes we FASO members will be the symphony's ambassadors to the community. He suggested that our purpose is to "promote joy and commitment around symphonic music." Sounds good, doesn't it?

Want to volunteer?

All FASO members – that means anyone who pays their FASO dues —are welcome to pitch in and help at various ASO events. For example, your editor got to assist last year in escorting *dozens* of aspiring musicians to audition for ASO openings. At a more recent audition, harpists came from as far away as Paris to try out for our symphony.

Here's one example of something you can do. Help us Feed the Strings. On concert week, the musicians come to Maryland Hall to rehearse. On Tuesdays, the violinists, violists, cellists and double bass players rehearse into the evening. They take a break around dinner time, and FASO members supply and share the meal. Renee Ehler, the chairman of Feed the Strings, says volunteering to provide food allows you to meet the musicians personally, and at their most casual. At concerts, you see them on stage in performance black; upstairs at dinner in Maryland Hall you see them in jeans and sneakers. Interested in helping? For various volunteer activities, contact Michael Kurtz. For Feed the Strings contact Renee at renee.ehler@verizon.net

Mark your calendars for Champagne Sunday



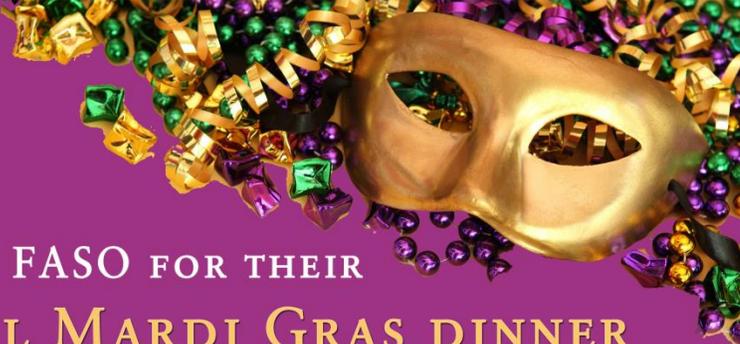
Join us in welcoming Spring at FASO's annual Champagne Sunday party! It will be held on April 17, from 4 - 6 pm, at the home of Patricia Edwards. This will be a beautiful setting to relax with friends, sip champagne, and enjoy hors d'oeuvres and sweets. Music will be provided by students from the Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra. The cost is \$50 per person, and the funds raised provide a year of private music lessons for a talented CYSO student.

Watch for your invitation in the mail soon! If you have questions in the meantime, contact Paula Abernethy at paula.abernethy@gmail.com, or 410-703-3554.

Champagne Sunday is one of the signature events of the Friends of the Annapolis Symphony. It is held annually at a member's home and always seems to herald the welcome arrival of Spring. This year it will be held in the late afternoon – a change from the recent past – and in a new venue, a glorious home in the Wardour community of Annapolis. Afterwards, you can go out for dinner. If you do, please support restaurants that generously supported the Concert of Tastes – Baroak, India's, Luna Blu, Galway Bay, Osteria 177, Broadneck Grill, Jack's Fortune and Annapolis Ice Cream Co. (Please also support the caterers who provided food at the COT, Allot Catering, Green Valley Marketplace, Graul's, Wegmans, Lin's Cuisine, Smoking Soldiers BBQ and Sweet Hearts Patisserie.)

Unexpected Chance to Enjoy Mardi Gras. Act Fast

Our annual Mardi Gras dinner party was snowed out. The bright side of the postponement is that FASO members who couldn't come then now have a chance to attend the rescheduled Mardi Gras blowout. It's being held on March 12, 6-9 p.m.. If you want to attend call RIGHT NOW. Tessie Ballard, Bernadine Crosby and Ginger From have extended the RSVP date to March 9. They really cook up a storm of New Orleans cuisine for this event so they need a good head count. Get in touch with Tessie, 410-798-8234; Bernadine, 301-261-4380, or Ginger at snapsgf@aol.com



JOIN FASO FOR THEIR
4TH ANNUAL MARDI GRAS DINNER
BENEFITTING THE ANNAPOLIS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2016
6PM TO 9PM

AT THE HOME OF GENERAL AND MRS. JOE BALLARD
2512 HOBBITS LANE
DAVIDSONVILLE, MD 21035

\$85 INDIVIDUAL
\$150 COUPLE

RSVP TO SPONSORS BY MARCH 8, 2016
TESSIE: 410-798-8234 • BERNADINE: 301-261-4380 • GINGER: SNAPSGF@AOL.COM

QUOTES OF THE MONTH
From the Capital, Feb. 26, 2016

“I think the Annapolis Symphony has a distinct personality. It’s a group of highly professional musicians that have worked very hard to get where they are ... There is great energy in the orchestra. There is willingness to excel. For a regional orchestra that is unusual.”

-- José-Luis Novo, Music Director



“One of the reasons I wanted to take this job was that Annapolis as a community has the chutzpah to say we are going to have a first-class symphony orchestra even in the shadow of two very big brothers in the symphony world.”

--Patrick Nugent, executive director

Coming May 11! NEW-AND-RENEW MEMBERSHIP Party

Bring in new members, renew your membership and take in some art and some history. And, oh yes, there will be food and drink and a brief annual meeting. New venue: The Annapolis Maritime Museum in Eastport. Yes, there will be free parking. May 11, 5-8 p.m. Watch for an invitation.

Save these Dates

March 12, 4th Annual Mardi Gras Party Fundraiser. \$85 individual or \$150 for couples. See above for details.

April 1 and 2, Lexus Classic Series 4. Michael Roll, guest pianist. Beethoven, Coriolan Overture; R. Schumann, Concerto for Piano in A Minor; Ives, The Unanswered Question; Schubert, Symphony No. 5 in B-flat Major. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor

April 17, Champagne Sunday, 4-6 p.m. at a private home. \$50 see above for details.

May 6 and 7. Lexus Classic Series 5. Smetana, The Moldau; Fung, Dust Devils; Britten, Young Person’s Guide to the Orchestra; Franck, Symphony in D Minor. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

May 11, NEW-AND-RENEW MEMBERSHIP PARTY. 5-8 p.m. Maritime Museum, 723 Second St. Price to be announced.

May 14 and 15, Family Concerts, with Michael Boudewyns and Sara Valentine, **Really Inventive Stuff. Theatrical Story Tellers.** Concerts at 2 and 3:30 p.m. in Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor. Meet the Musicians at 1:15 p.m. or 4:30 p.m.

NUMBERS TO KNOW:

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